



News

The Newsletter of Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions

www.saase.ca

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SAASE Annual Convention

Our communities and the fair industry are constantly changing, and we are always faced with the challenges of putting on our events, but even with that there are tremendous opportunities ahead for our agricultural societies and our communities. This year's convention theme is what we are all faced with daily - Change-Challenge-Opportunity.

The SAASE convention and annual meeting is taking place March 1 - 2 and is being hosted by the Swift Current Exhibition. This year's convention promises to give those attending a great opportunity to network, as well as to see what all the other Ag Societies are doing across the province.

During this past year there has been a great deal of concern over the spread of E.coli. Many of our fairs run shows which have the chance of contact between the public and animals. It is important that we minimize the risks. It is with that in mind that on Friday March 1, SAASE, in partnership with the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, as well as the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture will be running an E.coli Consumer Protection workshop. If you run events with livestock, you are encouraged to be at this very important workshop. Take a look on page 6 for details. The registration forms will be sent out with the convention package.

Friday will also feature presentations

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President's Message: Lisa Haynes

Well winter is certainly here. I hope everyone had a great fall and harvest. SAASE and the board of directors have been very busy over the last few months, and we look forward to a very busy winter and spring. I would like to thank the Board of Directors, as well as our Executive Director for all their hard work this year. I have certainly enjoyed my year as President and learned a great deal.

The partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture on the Farm Safety Days is very exciting. We started a little slow in 2012, with only 2 Safety Days organized, but 2013 looks to be a very busy year with 9 currently being scheduled. As well as the partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, SAASE and our members hosting safety days will be partnering with Progressive Agriculture and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA) on the Safety Days. Their expertise in assisting with farm safety days, and all the resources that they have to help out make them great partners. We look forward to working with Progressive Agriculture and CASA in 2013 and beyond. If you are interested in hosting a Safety Day for 2014 let Glen know at the office.

The Venture Project Program is now wrapping up for 2012. Once again there have been some tremendous programs that our agricultural societies have come up with that have been supported by the program. A big thanks goes out to the Ministry of Tourism for once again supporting this program in 2012. We are currently in discussions to get the program extended into 2013.

The Community Vitality Program has also proven to be an excellent program offered through the CIF for our members. The announcement in the newsletter is the final one for the fund, but over the 3 years of the program SAASE members have been able to access over \$300,000 in small capital grant funding. SAASE would like to thank the CIF for this great program - it has really made a difference.

With Christmas approaching it is once again time to be thinking about the SAASE convention. This year's convention will be taking place in Swift Current from March 1 – 2. Our board is currently working on the program and the information and registration packages will be sent out later in December. One thing that will be happening is SAASE will be hosting a Consumer Protection Program workshop on Friday March 1. We ran one when the convention was held in Moosomin a few years back, but with Ecoli issues in the news, it was felt that this would be an ideal time to run a refresher course for those who have taken it before, as well as offering this great program to those agricultural society members who have not taken it before. Take a look at the article in the newsletter. If you have any questions give Glen a call. The workshop registration will be coming out with the convention registration packages. Make sure that you get an application in for the SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards. The applications were sent out with the Directors reports.

A big congratulations goes out to SAASE, as we received a communications award for the best provincial/state newsletter at this year's International Fairs conference in Las Vegas. I hope that everyone has a safe holiday season, and that everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Take care and I will see you at the convention in Swift Current.

Lisa Haynes - President

The Newsletter of Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions Inc.

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SAASE Newsletter is printed quarterly and mailed on the last day of February, May, August and November. Additional copies are available from SAASE Office.

Contributions to SAASE Newsletter are welcome and will be included as space allows.

The SAASE Office is located in the Canada Centre complex at EVRAZ Place (Regina Exhibition Park) grounds, next door to the Saskatchewan Livestock Association office on the 2nd floor. Visitors are always welcome—give Glen a call at 565-2121 and drop in.

SAASE to Partner with Progressive Agriculture on Safety Days for 2013

At the SAASE Annual Convention in 2012 the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture announced a 3 year partnership with SAASE and our member agricultural societies on hosting Farm Safety Days. In 2012 Lloydminster and Kelvington each Hosted Farm Safety Days. In order to insure that the best information, and resources are available to our agricultural societies, SAASE will be partnering with Progressive Agriculture on 9 Farm Safety Days in 2013.



Progressive Agriculture is an organization headquartered in the United States dedicated to promoting and educating about farm safety. At the heart of this effort is the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® program, formerly known as the Progressive Farmer Farm Safety Day

Camp® program. Founded by The Progressive Farmer magazine in 1995, the program trains and provides the resources that local communities need to conduct one-day safety programs that are age-appropriate, hands-on, fun, and safe for children. While the basic program reaches children ages of 8 to 13, Safety Days may also be conducted for 4

to 7-year-olds or even entire families. Progressive Agriculture Safety Days® are conducted in the United States, Canada and the U.S. territories. The mission of the Progressive Agriculture Safety Days® is simple – to provide education and training to make farm and ranch life safer and healthier for children and their communities.

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Progressive Agriculture is affiliated with the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association. This partnership allows our agricultural societies to access not only outstanding resources, but to also access the best possible training to run safety days. In order to host a Progressive Agriculture Farm Safety Day you must apply by July 15th of the year before to host a day. Once approved a Safety Day coordinators workshop will be organized. SAASE applied for and was approved for a total of 9 Farm Safety Days in 2013. The locations approved are in Lloydminster, Swift Current, Biggar, Weyburn, Yorkton, Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Kelvington and Vanscoy.

Progressive Agriculture put on a Farm Safety Day Coordinators workshop hosted by SAASE, which was held in Regina on September 24th and 25th. A total of 18 people were registered for the workshop. Progressive Agriculture's Bernard Jeskie and Canadian Agricultural Safety Association's Stella Lauren led the participants through a 2 day certification course. There were some great ideas brought forward, as both Bernard and Stella went through the program, as well as making everyone aware of the tremendous resources that are available through both Progressive Agriculture and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association.

At this point SAASE has reached the maximum number of Safety Days that would be able to be coordinated for 2013. If you are interested in hosting a Farm Safety Day for 2014 please let the SAASE office know. the application for 2014 must be in by July 15th 2013.

SAASE would like to thank the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture for their support of this program. SAASE also looks forward to working with Progressive Agriculture, the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association and our 9 Farm Safety Day sites for 2013.



Vanscoy Hosts Food Safety Course

The Vanscoy Agricultural Society played host to a Food Safety workshop on September 22. With what has been happening in the news lately in regards to food safety, this type of course is something that is needed, and Vanscoy is to be congratulated for hosting one. Below is the report that was submitted by the Vanscoy Ag. Society.

The Vanscoy & District Agricultural Society sponsored a Food Safe Course on Saturday Sept 22, 2012. We had 32 registrations with 26 taking the course. We had participants from many of our local communities including Delisle, Asquith, Grandora, Pike lake, Vanscoy and Saskatoon West. Organizations taking the course were 4-H clubs, Church groups, Fund-raising groups, and the Vanscoy & District Agricultural Society. The instructor, Russell Scott, kept us entertained and engaged as we learned

about food safety. The Vanscoy & District Agricultural Society served goodies and beverages for nutrition breaks.

This was a full 8 hour day course. The goals and objectives of the course were:

- Train individuals to become responsible food handlers in the food industry by using safe food handling methods and food preparation techniques
- Promote worker health and safety
- Emphasize food safety in a fast-paced, growth industry
- Encourage prevention of foodborne illness
- Protect the public and workers from harm
- Apply safe procedures for receiving, storing, preparing and presenting food
- Reduce common errors in handling

potentially hazardous foods

- Create an awareness of the Top Six job hazards and techniques for reducing risk of injury and illness

This was a great opportunity for those volunteering in the community, cooking at home or working in the food industry. This was a very beneficial course, and successful participants received a "Food Safe Handling Certificate". The Food Safe Level 1 is deemed to meet the requirements of the Saskatchewan Food Safety Regulations. Food Safe Level 1 is nationally recognized and provincially accredited. Members of the Vanscoy & District Agricultural Society would also like to thank the Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions (SAASE) for their help in sponsoring this event.



E.coli Consumer Protection Workshop at the SAASE Annual Convention

SAASE hosted a Consumer Protection workshop at the SAASE Annual Convention hosted by the Moosomin Agricultural Society 5 years ago. With all of the new Agricultural Societies, new fair volunteers, and the recent situations involving E.coli, it was felt by the SAASE Board of Directors that it would be a good time to host another course at our convention this year in Swift Current. The Consumer Protection workshop will take place on Friday March 1 - beginning at 10 am and then finishing up at 4:30 - in time for the convention registration. The workshop will be in partnership with the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE), and is being generously supported by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture.

Contamination from E. coli and other enteric pathogens continues to be a risk to fairs and events that support programs which bring humans and farm animals into close proximity. There have been numerous cases where litigation regarding E.coli has taken place against fairs and fair operators. By nature fairs and petting zoos present an incredibly high potential for contamination, resulting in potential litigation, financial loss and liability if fair operators and petting zoo owners fail to reduce risk and protect their visitors in a "reasonable" manner. It is with this in mind that SAASE in partnership with the International Association of Fairs and Expositions

(IAFE) will be offering this one day course.

"E.coli Outbreak Sickens Children after Fair Visit" - don't let this be the headline at your fair. The risk is real when your guests interact with animals whether it be in the livestock barns or petting zoo. Learn about the pathogen and get ideas on managing your risks in this one day session.

One of the key parts of the workshop will be the time when Dr. Neel or Marla Calico will sit down with you for a one-on-one review of your animal facilities and operations (livestock shows, petting zoos, etc.) and you will share with them your existing protocols/procedures (such as handwash stations, signage, cleaning, etc.). To make this part of our time most valuable to you, it is highly recommended that you bring the following with you to the session:

- Overall map of the fairgrounds (to see where the animals are housed in relation to the rest of the grounds)
- Any specific barn maps (or those of petting zoo, birthing center, etc.) that you have for your facilities
- Knowledge of operations in these areas.

If you can bring maps that you can write on, that will be even better!

Some of you may not work in this

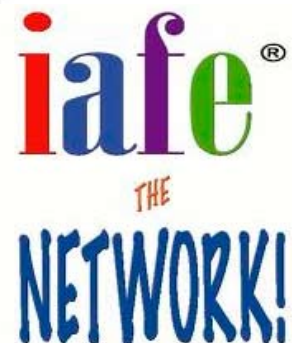
area as your primary role on staff or board, so please ask someone from your fair before coming! Be sure you have as much information as possible about where current handwashing stations, hand sanitizing stations, signage, manure pits are located as well as some concept of the flow of traffic (both human and animal) through these areas.

If there are multiple attendees from the same fair or facility, you will all meet with Dr. Neel or Marla Calico as a group. You will leave the workshop with a 3-ring binder full of information covered in the workshop, including templates for record and signs.

Anyone who has an event where there is contact with animals should attend this workshop. The workshop will be offered to SAASE members at no cost, but you must register with the SAASE office. For more information give Glen a call at 565-2121.



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SAASE Convention continued from page 1

from the various agricultural societies that have received funding and put on events and programs through the SAASE/Tourism Venture Project program. Our hosts from Swift Current will then host a great evening of entertainment.

Saturday will feature a full day of great presentations and workshops. Rudy Friesen from the Lethbridge Exhibition will talk about a very unique program that they will be introducing in 2013. We all have the challenge of getting youth involved with our agricultural societies at our fairs. Rudy will talk about the partnerships that they have made with Lethbridge's School Divisions, the Alberta 4 H and the Lethbridge Exhibition on establishing a youth council, which will be developing and putting on an event during the Lethbridge annual exhibition. This is a great opportunity for all of us to pick up some ideas on how to get youth involved with our organizations.

SaskEnergy will again be sponsoring the SaskEnergy/SAASE Volunteer Awards Luncheon. Our volunteers are our lifeblood. The awards program gives us an opportunity to recognize the contributions of our volunteers. Applications were sent out with the Directors year end reports. We all have volunteers that deserve recognition - make sure you get your nomination forms in.

We will have representatives from Saskatchewan Tourism, as well as SaskCulture to talk about the many

programs and opportunities that we as agricultural societies have access to as far as funding and resources. Sometimes we just don't know what programs or assistance there is available. We are all heavily involved with cultural and tourism programming - the information sessions will let us know where Tourism Saskatchewan and SaskCulture can help us out.

The other workshop that we will be offering is very important to our volunteers. The workshop will deal with Occupational Health and Safety and how it impacts our volunteers. During the 2012 Yorkton Exhibition a Saskatchewan Occupational Health and Safety Inspector visited the fair. He had a number of concerns and questions regarding how the Yorkton Exhibition educated their volunteers, policies regarding who can operate equipment, proper safety practices involving staff and volunteers and how OHS policies affect volunteer driven events.

The Yorkton Exhibition has done a lot of work on how to prepare their volunteers with proper safety practices to help meet future requirements and prevent volunteer injuries, liability issues and OHS fines.

They have hired Ross Young - owner of The Safety Warehouse 911 - to build a OHS workshop package for their staff and volunteers. Ross is a retired fireman and has been a volunteer with the Yorkton Exhibition. Ross will be leading the workshop at the SAASE convention.

This year's host hotel is the brand new Home Inn and Suites. It has just opened and is a few steps away from the Living Sky Casino. The hotel has many features including:

- Complimentary breakfast.
- Wireless internet throughout the hotel.
- Business Center open 24 hours a day.
- Fitness Center.
- Onsite convenience mart.
- Onsite guest laundry.
- Onsite salon and Spa.
- Pool Complex with 2 story waterslide.
- Guest rooms with mini-fridges, microwaves, coffee makers and 42" flat screen TVs.

Rooms with 2 queen size beds have been set aside at a rate of \$129.99 per night plus taxes. **You must reserve your room before Friday February 1.** To reserve a room let them know you are with the SAASE convention - reservations can be made by calling - 306-778-7788. To check them out online go to www.d3h.ca/swiftcurrenthomesuites.

Once again you are encouraged to bring a silent auction item. Proceeds from the 50/50 draws and the silent auction go to the SAASE scholarship program. This year with the generous support of West Coast Amusements we were able to offer 4 scholarships instead of 2. Thanks again to West Coast Amusements and all of you who support the program by bringing and buying silent auction items.



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SAASE Wins Best Newsletter Award at IAFE Convention

The International Association of Fairs and Expositions annual convention was held in Las Vegas from November 26-30. SAASE was represented at the State and Provincial Association of Fairs by President Lisa Haynes and Executive Director Glen Duck. There were excellent workshops on various issues affecting State and Provincial Associations. During the meeting the winners of the K & K Insurance Hall of Honor Communications Awards were presented. SAASE received the award for Best Newsletter. The winners in the various categories are as follows:

Newsletter Awards:

1st place – SAASE

2nd place - Washington State Fair Association

3rd place - New York State Association

Membership Directory Awards:

1st place – Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs

2nd place - Florida Federation of Fairs

3rd place - Colorado Association of Fairs

Web Site Winners:

1st place - Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs

2nd place – Association of Iowa Fairs

3rd place - Illinois Association



SAASE President Lisa Haynes accepts the Best Newsletter Award

The Board of Directors and Officers for the upcoming year were elected as follows: President – Jayme Buttke (Wisconsin); Vice President – Howard Call (Ohio); Secretary/Treasurer – Lisa Hinton (Florida); Immediate Past President – Emily Pitcock (Tennessee); Board members: Dennis Miller (Nebraska); Steve Patterson (Indiana); Nancy Pitz (Rocky Mountain); Norma Hamilton (New York); Glen Duck (Saskatchewan); and Charles Atkinson (Kansas).

Hypnotist Jesse Lewis Attempts World Record in North Battleford

On August 16, 2012 Jesse from Jesse Lewis Hypnosis appeared at North Battleford Territorial Days to make an attempt at a hypnosis record and perform his classic hypnosis show. Jesse was already scheduled to perform for the Territorial Days when he brought the idea of a Canadian mass hypnosis record attempt to Jocelyn of the North Battleford Ag Society. The Ag Society agreed to try and everyone was very excited about the promoting possibilities from the record attempt.

The current record was held by hypnotist from Quebec who hypnotized 422 people at one time. Knowing this would be a hard one to crack, Jesse got to work. Before Jesse's scheduled performance Jesse had been successful in appearing on 4 radio interviews, 3 newspaper articles, and 1 television interview with CTV where he was able to promote the Territorial Days and himself.



I bet your wondering how it turned out. Jesse unfortunately was not able to hypnotize over 422 people but the event was definitely a success. With over 300 people in the stands Jocelyn and Jesse were happy the record attempt paid off in the most important way, getting North Battleford's Territorial Days

recognized across the province.

During the record attempt Jesse's son was starting to make his way into the world and the next morning Jesse welcomed his son, Finley. Jesse still has never missed a performance. Jesse is a proud member of SAASE.

Community Vitality Funds SAASE Members Announces Program Extension for 2013

The Community Vitality - small capital grants program through the Community Investment Fund (CIF), announced the grant recipients from the October deadline on December 11. The program has run for the past 3 years and has made a tremendous difference for Saskatchewan communities. Over the past 3 years numerous SAASE members have applied for and been approved for funding. In the final application 5 Saskatchewan agricultural societies were approved for a total of \$66,225. The Connaught Agricultural Society was approved for \$7,000 to improve their fair grounds, The Kelvington Agricultural Society was approved for \$20,000 to upgrade their washrooms and make them wheelchair accessible, the Swift Current Ag and Ex. was approved for \$20,000 to replace the shingles on the Airmen's Billet Building - a heritage building on the grounds, the Vanscoy Agricultural Society was approved for \$5,000 to upgrade their riding arena and the Yorkton Exhibition was approved for \$10,000 to be used for improvements to their Industrial Building. Lancer received \$4,225 from the Community Pride Program - they had applied for their 100th anniversary celebration.

Within the press release the Community Initiatives fund also announced that they will be extending the Community Vitality Program an additional year - through 2013. This is great news for all communities in Saskatchewan. The deadlines for next year are April 1 and October 1. If you are looking at any kind of small capital project on your



Swift Current Exhibition H Hut Community Vitality Project

grounds you should be taking a look at this great program. Below you will find a copy of the media release.

CIF Awards Almost \$3.33 Million in Grants and Renews Its Commitment to Saskatchewan Communities!

The Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) today announced approval of 251 grants totaling \$3,329,680 toward its continued investment in Saskatchewan communities. CIF programs support locally-led projects that enhance the capacity for development, inclusion, leadership and vitality in all Saskatchewan communities.

"Through the CIF, Government is investing in Saskatchewan communities and in the projects that the communities themselves

identify as important," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Kevin Doherty said. "As Saskatchewan's population continues to grow, and more people are employed than ever before in our growing economy, the province is finding a new vibrancy. With CIF support, communities are taking action to improve the health and lives of Saskatchewan residents."

CIF's 117 Community Grant
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Connect • Engage • Thrive



Community Vitality Project at the Connaught Agricultural Society

Program grants totaling \$1,592,017 support the health and well being of Saskatchewan's vulnerable children, youth and families. Grants through its Community Vitality Program total \$1,654,978 for 131 small capital projects and celebrations of community pride and diversity. One grant through each of the Physical Activity Grant Program and the Problem Gambling Prevention Program total \$57,685. An additional Youth Leadership grant adds \$25,000 more to CIF's overall contribution to Saskatchewan residents' quality of life. There are two CIF grant application deadlines each

year: April 1 and October 1.

Recent changes to grant programs now allow the CIF to respond more directly to current Saskatchewan community needs. CIF's Community Vitality Program has been extended an additional year for 2013, and locally-led community projects through the Physical Activity Grant Program are now eligible.

CIF's Community Grant Program is being broadened to include projects that support urban Aboriginal people and youth leadership. This

program is well aligned to support the wellbeing of children, youth, family and community, and for community inclusiveness and engagement. To increase the ease and accessibility to its grant programs, an online application process will soon be introduced on the CIF website, www.cifsask.org.

"Saskatchewan community needs are always at the core of our (CIF) programming," says Tracey Mann, executive director of the CIF. "By fine-tuning our programs we can now respond even more directly to current needs and contribute to great projects that benefit Saskatchewan residents and support the hard work and dedication of community nonprofits and volunteer agencies."

The CIF is a Special Purpose Fund created through The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act and governed by a volunteer board appointed through the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport.

A complete list of grant recipients and more information about the Community Initiatives Fund are available at: www.cifsask.org.



Community Vitality Project at the Yorkton Exhibition

Battlefords Miniature Horse Show at the Fair

The Venture Project Program continues to provide an opportunity for SAASE members to try new events. This year the Battlefords Ag Society expanded their fair with a minisature horse show. Below is a report on that show.

The Battlefords Agricultural Society sponsored the Battlefords Miniature Horse Club in their very first show and competition at the Battlefords Territorial Exhibition on August 15th & 16th, 2012. The competitions consisted of wagon, cart, and halter agility competitions.

The show was a huge success and we hope to continue in the future with other shows, competitions and fun ventures. We as a club wish to thank the Battlefords Agricultural Society, and the public that supported us in our first venture.

Submitted by: Gordon Gray



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Experience Agriculture at Prairieland Park

SAASE continues the partnership with Prairieland Park on the AG EXperience program. Over the past number of years Prairieland Park has continued to expand the program, and allowed SAASE to use the signage and computer games that are developed. This allows SAASE to continually upgrade the AG EXperience provincial agricultural education display. The following is the AG EXperience for Students Program report.

Prairieland Park's AG EXperience for Students was held at Prairieland Park's Ag Centre and Trade Centre over 3 days, October 2 - 4. The ever popular event welcomed 700 students plus teachers, parents and helpers for a full day of activities relating to the agriculture industry in Saskatchewan.

Participating schools were diverse this year with several coming in from out of town, two French Immersion Schools and we were pleased to welcome a class of hearing impaired students to our program. Twelve classes started the day at twelve different stations where industry representatives

explained some of the processes and procedures required with growing food in Saskatchewan. Lunch time activities included the ever popular Cookie Auction and complimentary milk was provided for all students.

Students were amazed by Jared Epp's abilities to command his Border Collie dogs to herd sheep.



groups again and completed the program by 2:30.

Prairieland Park's school tour program was started in 1990 and continues to be an integral component of Prairieland's agricultural programming. Students from Saskatoon and surrounding communities have the opportunity to spend the day learning about Saskatchewan agriculture and

how their food is grown and processed. Industry experts and volunteers guide students through interactive stations where they can get an up-close view of agriculture including animal care, the environment and by-products that they use everyday that come directly from animals and crops.



They were engaged in the live cow milking demonstration, and excited to see what raw milk looked like. A fitness station presented by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Saskatchewan impressed the importance of healthy eating and healthy living. Following the auction the classes split into two



Melville Host Livestock Stewardship Program

The Melville Agri-Park Youth Livestock Stewardship Program (yet to be named by participants) had over 55 children participate in 2012 and we are hoping to bring back the same kids with a few more kids in 2013. This program gives children from the ages of 4-18 years the opportunity to try all the different livestock events. We offered practice or try-out sessions over the summer and then a competition at the Fair on September 15 & 16th. If there is interest the program will continue through the winter, but will start up full force again in the spring. The program was started at the grassroots level, and the kids have tried all the different events. Because some of the participants are more qualified than others, the program has been designed to ensure that the children will progress according to their skill level.

The participants dictate the events that we offer but we started with dummy roping and dummy tying: ranch roping, team roping, calf roping, calf tying, goat tying. Another section offered was horse back riding and all the events and disciplines that you can compete in. Some had horses already and some had never even have had the opportunity to pet a horse. The ones that were ready to compete were offered practice clinics. The others were given the opportunity to pet, brush, saddle, sit on a horse, and they eventually progressed to doing patterns on horseback; some were being led and others were able to go on their own.

The biggest hit was the bucking barrel; everyone had a try at that and even if you never planned on participating in bucking events it is really good for your balance. We brought in All Around Rodeo instructors Rick and Paddy White who are very knowledgeable in all rodeo events and more importantly great with the kids. The Mighty Buckies arrived just in time for the Fair in September and we brought in the Wild Ponies for the final

event. Some of the participants have said that they wanted to work in the background moving livestock, loading chutes, keeping time and books so those are areas of training we will be offering as well.

Many kids grow up without the opportunity to be around livestock; many would like to try the variety of different livestock events just like they have the opportunity to skate or play ball. There is no other project like this in the area and as a result we have many people interested in the program. We have participants from Melville and area; Grenfell, Broadview, Springside, Stockholm, Esterhazy and Qu'Appelle.

Kids do not always know what they are getting into when they join a club. This program will give kids a chance to try something they may never have the opportunity to try. We hope to give the kids a better understanding of how to feed and care for livestock, as well as becoming involved in agricultural events. Some may never want to go on to competitions but this may give them a better understanding of livestock and an appreciation of watching others compete in livestock events. Others may turn out to be great volunteers for organizations



that put on livestock events, and we all know we need more volunteers!

The livestock stewardship program allows kids from all walks to life the opportunity to try a variety of livestock events that they normally would never have the chance to do.

- It allows the ones that have never brushed or sat on a horse an opportunity to do that.
- It gives kids a chance to loop and swing a rope while catching a dummy.
- It gives children a chance to lead a calf, goat - ride a sheep, or ride a barrel like a steer or bull.

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- They get to work on getting their horse to complete a perfect pattern or go in a faster time.
- Kids get a chance to see what it takes to compete in events, as well as put them on.
- Makes sure that safety is promoted and practiced at all times during events and around animals.

Many younger children do not have an opportunity to try out these events because they do not have access to livestock or agricultural venues. This program gives them that opportunity.

We just want to let the kids have the opportunity to have contact with different types of livestock and understand how they need to be looked after and treated on a daily basis. If any of the children are interested, they can pursue the events of their choice. If they enjoy it then they can join other great organizations related to their events or just have fun being around livestock. We do not want to replace the

4-H or High School rodeo programs. The kids benefited from this project and will continue to benefit in the future as we have a great deal of equipment which they have access to through the program. We have two Mighty Buckies; ropes and dummies; access to horses, ponies, sheep, goats, and cattle for them to use and try out. The parents benefit as we are keeping this as cost effective as we can. Kids can try the different events and see if they enjoy it before investing in all the necessary equipment needed for the livestock events. The livestock will benefit as the kids will be taught the proper ways to treat the livestock with respect.

They will also learn the skills and see what it takes to take part in livestock competitions. They will also learn skills on how to work with other people and become part of a team. We may produce some great livestock men and women as well as some high quality agricultural events which will also give everyone a

greater understanding of agricultural.

Thank you very much to SAASE for allowing us to be part of the Venture Program and a special thank you to our other supporters: the City of Melville and the Painted Hand Community Development Corporation for the Grant to purchase some equipment for the Melville Agri-Park Youth Riding & Roping events. We are still looking for some bronc and bull riding equipment if anyone has anything for sale or donation please contact the Melville Agri-Park.

We cannot wait to see where this program goes and we hope to develop some great competitors, volunteers, and individuals with a great appreciation of all livestock events. We hope that other Agricultural Societies and groups will develop similar programs to allow kids in other areas of the province to try the different events and further develop their livestock skills. Please contact me if you have any questions – Jamie McDonald, Melville Agri-Park.



4-H Canada Celebrates 100 Years

2013 marks the 100th anniversary of 4-H in Canada. For 100 years, 4-H programming in Canada has helped generations of youth build confidence, learn new skills and become leaders in their clubs, communities and beyond.

Throughout the year, numerous activities and events are being planned in recognition of this milestone, both at the national level and within the province of Saskatchewan. One hundred years of 4-H will be marked at provincial public speaking, curling and judging events, as well as the Saskatchewan 4-H Council AGM March 16-17, 2013 in Saskatoon. A number of clubs in the province are

also planning special activities.

Members of SAASE are welcome to join in the celebration! Banners will be available from 4-H Saskatchewan to use at various agriculture shows and exhibitions throughout the province in 2013. You may wish to partner with local clubs in planning an anniversary display or event.

Contact Kim Kennett, Communications Manager, 4-H Saskatchewan, kim@4-h.sk.ca, 306-933-8268 for more information and to share your ideas for making 2013 a year for all those who have been involved in 4-H to remember!



4-H 100th Anniversary

Bits & Bites

- Judging entry tags are once again available from the SAASE office. There is no cost for the entry tags. If you need tags give the SAASE office a call and let Glen know how many you need and he will get them shipped out to you.
- If your agricultural society is interested in hosting a farm safety day camp in 2014 give Glen a call at the office.
- This year's SAASE Convention and Annual Meeting will be held in Swift Current and hosted by the Swift Current Ag & Ex. The convention will take place March 1 - 2, 2013. The convention packages will be sent out before the new year. The Consumer Protection workshop registration forms will be included in the package.
- SaskEnergy is once again sponsoring our awards program at the convention. Get your applications in for the SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards. These awards recognize the volunteers that are so important to the success of our agricultural societies and communities.



Coming Events

December 2012

31 New Years Eve House Party Saskatoon

January 2013

7-10 Crop Production Show Saskatoon
14-16 Cattleman's Corral Crop Visions Lloydminster

February 2013

15-17 Saskatchewan Equine Expo Saskatoon
23-24 Prairieland Youth Leadership Saskatoon

March 2013

1 Ecoli Consumer Protection Workshop Swift Current

1-2 SAASE Convention & Annual Meeting Swift Current
2 Evening Out for Farmers and Friends North Battleford
2-3 94th Pride of the Prairies Bull Sale Lloydminster
16-17 Focus on Women Trade Show Prince Albert
21 Spring Home Show Regina
22-24 Gardenscape Saskatoon
22-24 Showcase 2013 Lloydminster

April 2013

10-11 Western Canadian Dairy Expo Saskatoon
25-27 Taste of Spring Regina

If you have any events you would like to add to our list,
please contact the SAASE office at 306-565-2121 or email
gduck.saase@sasktel.net



Large and small,
Saskatchewan communities
one and all.

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